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Meteorological Observations of the Second Wellman Expedition. By EVELYN B. BALDWIN, Observer, Weather Bureau. Report of the Chief of the Weather Bureau, United States Department of Agriculture, 1899-1900. Part VII. Washington, 1901.

This report embraces in full detail the meteorological observations made by Mr. Baldwin in connection with the second Wellman expedition. The observations relate especially to the meteorological conditions at and in the vicinity of Franz Josef Land, from June 1898, to August 1899, embracing observations made on shipboard between Tromso, Norway, and Franz Josef Land, those made at Harmsworth House and at Fort McKinley, on Franz Josef Land, and those made in the field, partly on Franz Josef Land and partly on the ocean north of there. To atmospheric geologists, the summations relative to the prevalent direction of the wind and cloud movements will perhaps possess the greatest interest. These show that the prevalent atmospheric movement was emphatically from the northward. The observations upon the upper clouds, which perhaps best express the general movement, may be grouped as follows :

N. W.	-	-	-	-	19 per cent.
N.	-	-	-	-	20 per cent.
N. E.	-	-	-	-	19 per cent.
E.	-	-	-	-	10 per cent.
				—	- - 68 per cent.
S. E.	-	-	-	-	4 per cent.
S.	-	-	-	-	2 per cent.
S. W.	-	-	-	-	2 per cent.
W.	-	-	-	-	6 per cent.
				—	- - 14 per cent.
Calms	-	-	-	-	18 per cent.

Fifty-eight per cent. are from N. W., N., and N. E., while only 24 per cent. are from the remaining five points.

Separating these into those that have an easterly and westerly component, the observations take this form :

North	-	-	-	-	-	20 per cent.
With easterly component :						
N. E.	-	-	-	-	-	19 per cent.
E.	-	-	-	-	-	10 per cent.
S. E.	-	-	-	-	-	4 per cent.
				—	- -	33 per cent.

With westerly component :

N. W.	-	-	-	19 per cent.	
W.	-	-	-	6 per cent.	
S. W.	-	-	-	2 per cent.	
				<hr/>	- - 27 per cent.
South	-	-	-	-	- 2 per cent.
Calm	-	-	-	-	- 18 per cent.

From these data it will be seen that there is but very slight preponderance of the easterly component over the westerly, and that the aggregate direction is almost due north.

Analyzing in a similar way the observations on the lower clouds, we have :

N. W.	-	-	-	-	13 per cent.	
N.	-	-	-	-	20 per cent.	
N. E.	-	-	-	-	25 per cent.	
E.	-	-	-	-	5 per cent.	
					<hr/>	- - 63 per cent.
S. E.	-	-	-	-	7 per cent.	
S.	-	-	-	-	6 per cent.	
S. W.	-	-	-	-	15 per cent.	
W.	-	-	-	-	6 per cent.	
					<hr/>	- - 34 per cent.
Calm	-	-	-	-	-	4 per cent.

Summing up with reference to eastward and westward components, we have the following :

North	-	-	-	-	-	20 per cent.
With easterly component :						
N. E.	-	-	-	-	25 per cent.	
E.	-	-	-	-	5 per cent.	
S. E.	-	-	-	-	7 per cent.	
					<hr/>	- - 37 per cent.
With westerly component :						
N. W.	-	-	-	-	13 per cent.	
W.	-	-	-	-	6 per cent.	
S. W.	-	-	-	-	15 per cent.	
					<hr/>	- - 34 per cent.
South	-	-	-	-	-	6 per cent.
Calm	-	-	-	-	-	4 per cent.

The result is practically the same as before.

The emphatic preponderance of northerly winds, and the slightness of the average deviation to the east over that to the west, are

points of interest and should receive the consideration of the advocates of a "circumpolar whirl." Of course, conclusions are not to be drawn from these limited data (and data taken in an expedition of this kind are necessarily limited), but they are in consonance with many other data that invite a reconsideration of prevalent theories of atmospheric circulation.

When the conditions under which these observations were made are considered, their number and their nature must be regarded as a high tribute to the scientific devotion of the observer.

T. C. C.

The Oriskany Fauna of Becraft Mountain, Columbia County, N. Y.

By J. M. CLARK, Ph.D., Mem. N. Y. St. Mus., No. 3, Vol. III.

Becraft Mountain is an outlier composed chiefly of strata of early Devonian age, resting conformably upon the upturned slates of the Hudson River formation. A preliminary paper on the fauna of the Oriskany formation at this locality was published in 1899 by Professor C. E. Beecher, being accompanied by a list of the species present identified by the author of the present report. It was shown at that time that the fauna was a peculiar one, consisting of an intermingling of Helderbergian and Oriskany forms. The present report is a detailed description of the fauna accompanied by good illustrations of all the species.

This discussion of the Becraft Mountain Oriskany fauna by Dr. Clark, brings clearly into view a very different conception of the faunas of Oriskany age in eastern North America from that which has become known through Volume III of the New York Paleontology. At Becraft's Mountain, and in strata extending southward through New York and into New Jersey, a calcareous facies of Oriskany sedimentation occurs, which contains a very different assembly of organisms from that of the original Oriskany sandstone, and which is considered by Dr. Clark as being the normal fauna of the period. In this connection Dr. Clark writes: "In the earlier presentation of this fauna it was regarded as of Lower Oriskany horizon, on account of the presence of many Helderbergian species, but we believe it will be more correctly construed as the representation of the proper and normal Oriskany fauna, the true fauna of this time unit inclosed in the sediments of its proper habitat."

The character of the Oriskany sandstone deposits in New York